

## WE ARE ...

**Interpreters** for the operational units, converting their problems and needs into detailed dialogues with university research partners to seek timely solutions that can move NJDOT forward

**Facilitators** to bring together experience, knowledge and technology to address these pressing problems

**Educators** to spread knowledge gained from our successes and failures and to search for solutions through technology transfer and quality research activities

**Researchers** to conduct in-house research projects

**Evaluators** to assess and demonstrate usability of new technology and practices

**Implementers** using the knowledge gained through the research effort to make a positive change in the way our customers do business

**Research Managers** to negotiate and manage university research projects

**Manager**  
**Nicholas Vitillo**

**Research Project Managers**

**Nazhat Aboobaker**

**Karl Brodtman**

**Anthony Chmiel**

**Edward Kondrath**

**Vincent Nichnadowicz**

**Robert Sasor**

**Lad Szalaj**

**Administrative Staff**

**Stephanie Nock**

**Andrea Herrick**

**Nicole Onorati**

**Lorraine Stallings**

**Librarians**

**Carol Paszaman**

**Anne Reece**



**New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Bureau of Research**

1035 Parkway Avenue

P.O. Box 600

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

Phone (609) 530-5637

Fax (609) 530-3722

**Email:** [research.bureau@dot.state.nj.us](mailto:research.bureau@dot.state.nj.us)

<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/refdata/research/>

## BUREAU OF RESEARCH

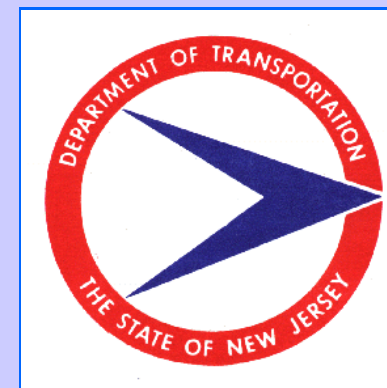
2005 STRATEGIC

DIRECTIONS

---

*Turning Problems into Solutions*

---



*“We provide current and quality information, analysis, and value-added solutions to transportation professionals within New Jersey and throughout the Nation”*



# Research Strategic Plan 2005-2008

## *Customer Service*

We will listen to customer feedback and adjust our processes and products to better meet their needs. We also will be clear about how we can be of service with potential customers. Our objectives are ...

- ⇒ Continuously solicit feedback
  - Develop systems of formal and informal feedback
  - Involve customers and unit managers in project decision making
- ⇒ Personally solicit project problem statements from appropriate division management
- ⇒ Attend applicable “scoping meetings”
- ⇒ Conduct continuous improvement forums with university research partners
  - Improve project completion “on-time” delivery
  - Improve final research report design and quality
  - Require Principal Investigator and Department Chair certification of the final reports
- ⇒ Simplify ease of access to information
- ⇒ Develop a “differential research projects” process
  - Define Pipeline 1, Pipeline 2, and Pipeline 3 research projects
- ⇒ Ensure timely delivery of quarterly reports, technical memoranda, and draft final reports

## *Research Implementation*

We will significantly increase the implementation rate of research products to provide a better return on investment in research and to demonstrate the value of the research program. Our objectives are ...

- ⇒ Significantly increase the number of projects that are successfully implemented
  - Increase the weight given to implementation plans in project proposals
  - Build implementation ideas/requirements into research contracts
  - Develop implementation guidelines
  - Develop implementation work plans for projects
  - Target up to 20% of the Bureau’s budget for implementation expenses
  - Present research findings from other states
  - Support the customer risk taking necessary for implementation
  - Provide training on research findings
- ⇒ Produce more tangible research projects that can be reasonably implemented
- ⇒ Include implementation successes as a feature of the annual Research Showcase
- ⇒ Create a “Research Hall of Fame” section on the Bureau website for successfully implemented projects.

## *Resource Growth*

We will Increase both the Bureau funding base and staffing to better serve the needs of the state’s transportation community. Our objectives are ...

- ⇒ Hire and retain excellent staff
  - Identify workload standards
  - Develop a Bureau succession plan
- ⇒ Investigate alternative sources of funding
  - Diversify funding sources
  - Investigate outside federal grants
  - Explore cost sharing with non-DOT organizations
  - Explore matching funds for implementation efforts
- ⇒ Explore a partnership with the New Technology & Products Group
  - Produce a joint annual report
  - Add a New Technology & Products feature to the annual Research Showcase
- ⇒ Demonstrate the Bureau’s value to the department
  - Provide help to customers beyond current projects
  - Update Department staff on research done for all organizations
  - Provide “brown bag” lunch discussion sessions
- ⇒ Expand the Bureau’s partnerships with outside organizations
- ⇒ Explore the development of a New Jersey Transportation Institute